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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

United States Senate

November 8, 2013

The Honorable Tom Tidwell
Chief, U.S. Forest Service
Yates Building, 5th Floor, NW Wing
201 Fourteenth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20250

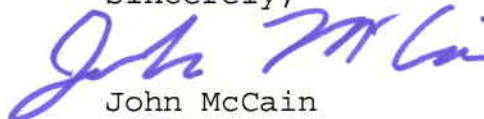
Dear Chief Tidwell:

I'm contacting you regarding a new order issued by the Forest Service that threatens to cite and tow private trailers that are camped for more than 72 hours on Forest Service property. Previously, the Forest Service followed the long established practice of allowing trailers to stay for 14 days.

As you know, hunts that are authorized by the Arizona Game and Fish Department can last a week or more. It will be very difficult for hunters to spend quality time on a one or two week elk hunt if they are constantly forced to move their trailers to avoid citation. These are temporary trailers and to my knowledge no other national forest in Arizona is imposing this burden on the hunting community. Quite frankly, it's a stretch for Forest Service to treat these trailers as abandoned property when state permittees have a lawful right to hunt.

I would appreciate your review of this matter and ask you to find a solution that ensures our hunters have fair and reasonable access to national forest lands.

Sincerely,



John McCain
United States Senator

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